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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SOUTHERN DIVISION

N.Z., R.M., B.L., S.M., and A.L.,
individually and on behalf of themselves
and all others similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

FENIX INTERNATIONAL LIMITED,
FENIX INTERNET LLC, BOSS
BADDIES LLC, MOXY
MANAGEMENT, UNRULY AGENCY
LLC (also d/b/a DYSRPT AGENCY),
BEHAVE AGENCY LLC, A.S.H.
AGENCY, CONTENT X, INC., VERGE
AGENCY, INC., AND ELITE
CREATORS LLC,
Defendants.

Case No. 8:24-cv-01655-FWS-SSC

**PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE IN
OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS
FENIX INTERNATIONAL
LIMITED'S AND FENIX
INTERNET LLC'S MOTION FOR
PARTIAL RECONSIDERATION
OR ALTERNATIVELY
CERTIFICATION OF AN
INTERLOCUTORY APPEAL**

Judge: Hon. Fred W. Slaughter
Courtroom: 10D
Date: September 4, 2025
Time: 10:00 a.m.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Defendants Fenix International Limited's ("FIL") and Fenix Internet LLC's (together "Fenix" or "Fenix Defendants") Motion for Partial Reconsideration or Alternatively Certification of an Interlocutory Appeal, Dkt. 147 ("Motion") overstates the reach of *EpicientRx II* and understates the breadth of this Court's prior ruling. *EpicientRx II* addressed a narrow question about predispute jury trial waivers. It did not involve consumers, class actions, or California's well-established public policy favoring those remedies. That independent rationale—recognized in California Supreme Court and Ninth Circuit precedent—remains untouched. Even setting *EpicientRx II* aside, this Court's decision is grounded in discretionary public-policy balancing and fact-specific findings that are unsuitable for reconsideration and do not meet the exacting standard for interlocutory appeal under 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b). Stripping away Fenix's mischaracterizations leaves the same result this Court reached before: the forum selection clause is unenforceable against the California Plaintiffs.

II. BACKGROUND

Fenix moved to dismiss this action on forum non conveniens grounds based on a forum selection clause ("FSC") in its Terms of Service. Dkt. 60 ("FNC Motion"). The FSC designates the courts of England and Wales as the exclusive forum for disputes. *Id.* at 4. Plaintiffs opposed, arguing that enforcement of the FSC would violate California public policy in two respects: (1) by requiring California residents to litigate in a forum that does not provide a civil jury trial, and (2) by requiring California residents to litigate in a forum that does not permit U.S.-style,

1 opt-out class actions, thereby depriving them of an essential mechanism for
2 vindicating substantive consumer and privacy rights. Dkt. 85 at 9–17.

3 In denying Fenix’s FNC Motion in part, the Court found first that
4 enforcement against the California Plaintiffs “contravenes California public policy”
5 by “substantially diminish[ing] the rights of California residents to bring class
6 action suits.” Dkt. 117 at 12 (“FNC Order”); *see also id.* at 11–12 (finding that
7 “limitations on class actions identified by Plaintiffs”—including requirements that
8 class members “‘opt in,’ consent to being identified as a claimant, pay a ‘court issue
9 fee,’ and accept potential liability for payment of the adverse party’s legal fees—
10 undermine the ability of ‘California residents to recover in cases where ‘the amount
11 of individual recovery would be insufficient to justify bringing a separate action.’”)
12 *Second*, explicitly describing it as an “independent and alternative basis” for its
13 decision, the Court determined that requiring California residents to litigate in
14 England and Wales would deprive them of a civil jury trial. The Court dismissed
15 the claims of the non-California Plaintiffs against the Fenix Defendants based on
16 the FSC, but retained jurisdiction over the California Plaintiffs’ claims on both
17 public-policy grounds. *Id.* at 14–15. The Court also retained jurisdiction over all
18 Plaintiffs’ claims against the Agency Defendants.¹

19 Fenix now moves for “partial” reconsideration of the Court’s ruling or, in the
20 alternative, certification for interlocutory appeal under 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b)—

21
22 ¹ Although Defendants now claim in their motions to dismiss that the Court’s
23 FNC Order dismissing the non-California Plaintiffs’ claims against Fenix applied
24 equally to the Agency Defendants, that is incorrect, as Plaintiffs explain in their
25 briefing. *See generally*, Dkts. 138, 141, 142. Those motions remain pending and
will be argued at the same hearing as the present motion for reconsideration.

1 relying on the California Supreme Court’s decision in *EpicentRx, Inc. v. Superior*
2 *Court*, 2025 WL 2027272 (Cal. July 21, 2025) (“*EpicentRx II*”), which Fenix
3 argues changed the applicable law and requires dismissal of the remaining claims
4 (or at least interlocutory review).

5 **III. ARGUMENT²**

6 Fenix seeks two forms of relief—reconsideration and, in the alternative,
7 certification for interlocutory appeal—and claims both are supported by the
8 California Supreme Court’s recent decision in *EpicentRx II*. Civil Local Rule 7-
9 18(b) permits reconsideration where there has been an “emergence of new material
10 facts or a change of law occurring after the Order was entered.” Similarly,
11 § 1292(b) authorizes interlocutory appeal only when the challenged order “involves
12 a controlling question of law as to which there is substantial ground for difference
13 of opinion and...an immediate appeal...may materially advance the ultimate
14 termination of the litigation.”

15 Both reconsideration and interlocutory appeal require more than a change in
16 the law—the change must be material to the challenged order, such that it would
17 require a different result. *See United States v. Woodbury*, 263 F.2d 784, 787–88
18 (9th Cir. 1959) (§ 1292(b) intended for “exceptional cases” where resolution of the
19 legal question will control the outcome); *Stewart v. Wachowski*, 574 F. Supp. 2d
20 1074, 1117 (C.D. Cal. 2006) (party seeking reconsideration must “demonstrate a
21 material factual or legal difference” that could not have been known earlier and that
22 is “of such consequence that it would have changed the prior decision”); *Motorola,*
23 *Inc. v. J.B. Rodgers Mech. Contrs., Inc.*, 215 F.R.D. 581, 583 (D. Ariz. 2003)

24 ² Unless otherwise noted, all internal quotation marks and citation are omitted.

1 (denying reconsideration where alleged change “would not alter the Court’s prior
2 reasoning or result”); *Planned Parenthood of the Great Nw. & the Hawaiian*
3 *Islands v. Wasden*, 564 F. Supp. 3d 895, 901 (D. Idaho 2021) (denying
4 reconsideration where intervening Supreme Court decision “did not change the
5 applicable . . . standard,” and therefore “did not alter [the] Court’s prior ruling”).

6 Even when a party claims an intervening change in law, the question whether
7 it is material—and whether reconsideration or certification is warranted—is left to
8 the trial court’s sound discretion. *See Sun v. Advanced China Healthcare, Inc.*, 901
9 F.3d 1081, 1088 (9th Cir. 2018) (public-policy determinations in forum-selection
10 context are “case-specific” and “entrusted to the trial court’s discretion”); *Depuy*
11 *Synthes Sales, Inc. v. Howmedica Osteonics Corp.*, 28 F.4th 956, 964 (9th Cir.
12 2022) (weight assigned to state public policy under § 1404(a) transfer analysis “is
13 for the trial court to determine”); *Gemini Techs., Inc. v. Smith & Wesson Corp.*, 931
14 F.3d 911, 916 (9th Cir. 2019) (public-policy grounds for declining enforcement
15 “need not be codified in statute” and are assessed in the trial court’s discretion).

16 At most, *EpicentRx II* addresses one of the “two separate and independent
17 public-policy grounds” on which the Court denied Fenix’s FNC Motion; the
18 other—California’s public policy favoring consumer class actions—remains
19 binding and independently dispositive. Dkt. 117 at 10.

20 The Court should deny Fenix’s Motion in its entirety.

21 **A. *EpicentRx II* leaves this Court’s class-action ruling untouched.**

22 The Court should reaffirm its prior holding that enforcing Fenix’s clause
23 against California Plaintiffs would contravene California’s public policy favoring
24 consumer class actions—an independent, sufficient ground to deny enforcement.

1 **1. California public policy recognizes consumer class actions as a**
2 **substantive right.**

3 In *Vasquez v. Superior Ct.*, describing the protection of consumers as “an
4 exigency of the utmost priority in contemporary society,” the California Supreme
5 Court described the state’s public policy in favor of consumer class actions as vital
6 to protecting consumers’ *substantive* rights to be free from fraudulent business
7 practices at the hands of businesses that are more powerful than they are. 4 Cal. 3d
8 800, 808 (1971). “Frequently,” the court noted, “numerous consumers are exposed
9 to the same dubious practice by the same seller,” yet “[i]ndividual actions by each
10 of the defrauded consumers [are] often impracticable because the amount of
11 individual recovery would be insufficient to justify bringing a separate action.”
12 *Id.* (emphasis added). In other words, without the availability of the class-action
13 mechanism, an “unscrupulous seller” can violate consumers’ substantive rights but
14 still “retain[] the benefits of its wrongful conduct.” *Id.*³

15 The California Court of Appeal reiterated this strong public policy in favor of
16 consumer class actions when it declined to enforce an outbound forum selection
17 clause in *America Online, Inc. v. Superior Court of Alameda County*, 90 Cal. App.
18 4th 1 (2001) (“*America Online*”). In *America Online*, the plaintiff brought a
19 putative class action in California alleging that internet service provider AOL had
20 continued to charge consumers monthly subscription fees even after they had

21 ³ The court went on to explain that while “multiple litigation (joinder,
22 intervention, consolidation, the test case)” can, in some ways, serve as an
23 alternative to class actions, such alternatives “do not sufficiently protect the
24 consumer’s rights” because they “presuppose a group of economically powerful
25 parties who are obviously able and willing to take care of their own interests
26 individually through individual suits or individual decisions about joinder or
27 intervention.” *Id.*

1 cancelled their subscriptions. 90 Cal. App. 4th at 5. The plaintiff raised various
2 common law and statutory claims, one of which was for violations of the CLRA.
3 *Id.*

4 The Court of Appeal rejected AOL’s attempt to enforce a forum-selection
5 clause that would have required litigation in Virginia, where the plaintiff would be
6 prohibited from asserting their claims on a class-wide basis. *Id.* at 15–17. Critically,
7 the court explicitly recognized *two separate public policy bases* for its decision.
8 *First*, the Court of Appeal described how “the right to seek class action relief in
9 consumer cases has been extolled by California courts,” quoting the “memorable
10 prose” from *Vasquez* recognizing California’s strong public policy in favor of
11 consumer class actions. *Id.* at 17. On this basis, the court held that “[t]he
12 unavailability of class action relief in this context *is sufficient in and by itself* to
13 preclude enforcement of the TOS forum selection clause.” *Id.* at 18 (emphasis
14 added). *Second*, the court in *America Online* explained that the limitations in
15 Virginia’s consumer protection law as compared to California’s law—specifically,
16 the availability of injunctive relief and other remedies under California’s consumer
17 protection laws that were not available under Virginia law—also precluded the
18 enforcement of the forum selection clause. *Id.* at 18. “Quite apart from” the
19 unavailability of class action procedures (and injunctive relief), “the cumulative
20 importance of” the substantive differences in law “would itself violate important
21 California public policy.” *Id.* at 18.

22 A few years later, confronted with AOL’s same forum-selection clause, the
23 Ninth Circuit hewed to the reasoning in *America Online*, refusing to enforce the
24 clause based on the same two—independent—public policy grounds: (1) the

1 “California public policy that strongly favors consumer class actions,” and (2) “the
2 anti-waiver provisions of the [CLRA] . . . as well as California’s ‘strong public
3 policy’ to ‘protect consumers against unfair and deceptive business practices.’” *Doe*
4 *I v. AOL LLC*, 552 F.3d 1077, 1083-84 (9th Cir. 2009) (quoting *America Online*,
5 108 Cal. Rptr. 2d. at 712). Thus, as this Court recognized in its FNC Order, the
6 court in *America Online* based its decision on two *independent* public policy
7 rationales, and “explicitly stated that ‘[t]he unavailability of class action relief in
8 this context is sufficient in and by itself to preclude enforcement of the . . . forum
9 selection clause.’” Dkt. 117 at 11 (citing *America Online*, 90 Cal. App. 4th at 18).

10 **2. *EpicientRx II* did not address, let alone disturb, California’s public**
11 **policy favoring consumer class actions.**

12 On July 21, 2025, the California Supreme Court issued its decision in
13 *EpicientRx, Inc. v. Superior Court*, No. S282521, 2025 WL 2027272 (July 21, 2025)
14 (“*EpicientRx II*”). The case arose from a business dispute between corporate entities
15 and involved a forum-selection clause requiring litigation in the Delaware Court of
16 Chancery—which does not provide civil jury trials. *Id.* at *1. The Court framed the
17 question narrowly: “whether the lower courts were correct to decline enforcement
18 of the forum selection clause on public policy grounds based *solely* on the clause’s
19 impact on plaintiff’s jury trial right.” *Id.* at *13 (emphasis added). Confining its
20 analysis to the jury-trial provisions in the California Constitution and § 631, the
21 Court held that while those provisions imposed “limitations on courts operating in
22 this forum” they did not reflect “a public policy against predispute jury trial waivers
23 writ large, untethered to their enforcement in a California forum.” *Id.* at *12. In so
24 holding, it distinguished the portion of *America Online* in which the court had
25 articulated its *second* public policy rationale: the express statutory anti-waiver

1 provision of the CLRA. *E.g.*, *EpicentRx II* at *12–13. Rejecting the plaintiffs’
2 attempts to analogize § 631 to the CLRA, the *EpicentRx II* court found that because
3 § 631 did not contain an explicit anti-waiver provision, the same reasoning did not
4 apply. But *EpicentRx II* left undisturbed California’s strong public policy favoring
5 consumer class actions—as described in *Vasquez*, *America Online*, and *Doe*—
6 specifically declining to “consider the merits” of *America Online* “or similar cases
7 involving potentially unwaivable substantive rights.” *Id.* at *13 n.7.

8 Ignoring this clear distinction between the two different public policy
9 rationales, Fenix asserts that *EpicentRx II* “held” that “California’s public policy
10 favoring consumer class actions applies only when the plaintiff asserts claims
11 covered by a statute that voids contracts diminishing the plaintiff’s statutory rights.”
12 Mot. at 1. That is incorrect. *EpicentRx II* did not involve a class action, did not
13 analyze California’s consumer class-action policy, and did not disturb controlling
14 decisions recognizing that policy as a basis to refuse enforcement of an FSC.

15 Fenix argues that “*EpicentRx II* made clear that *America Online* applies only
16 when the plaintiff asserts statutory claims subject to a CLRA-like statutory anti-
17 waiver provision.” Mot. at 9. But that argument is contradicted by the
18 *EpicentRx II* decision itself, where the court was careful to limit its reasoning to
19 cases where the absence of a jury trial in the selected forum was *the sole* public
20 policy issue under consideration: “[W]e consider in this matter only whether the
21 lower courts were correct to decline enforcement of the forum selection clause on
22 public policy grounds *based solely* on the clause’s impact on plaintiff’s jury trial
23 right.” *EpicentRx II* at *13 (emphasis added).

1 **3. California public policy need not be rooted in a statute or**
2 **constitutional provision in order to serve as a basis for refusing to**
3 **enforce a forum-selection clause.**

4 Fenix’s argument rests frequently on the incorrect premise that a public
5 policy must be rooted in statute or the Constitution to bar enforcement of an FSC.
6 For example, Fenix asserts that *EpicentRx II* “makes clear” that courts are
7 “reluctant to decline enforcement” of an FSC “especially where no statute or
8 constitutional provision speaks to the issue,” and contends that *America Online* and
9 *Doe* “turned on” the CLRA’s statutory anti-waiver provision. Mot. at 9–10, 14.

10 That is not the law. The language Fenix seizes on appears in *EpicentRx II*’s
11 general caution about the “delicate and undefined” power to void contracts—it did
12 not announce any new requirement that public policy be statutory. Indeed, the
13 *EpicentRx II* court expressly preserved the *America Online* and *Doe I* line of cases
14 resting on judicially declared policies. The Ninth Circuit has made clear that
15 “[p]ublic policy grounds for declining to enforce a forum-selection clause need not
16 be codified in statute” and may instead be “judicially declared.” *Gemini Techs., Inc.*
17 *v. Smith & Wesson Corp.*, 931 F.3d 911, 916 (9th Cir. 2019) (citing *Doe I v. AOL*
18 *LLC*, 552 F.3d 1077, 1084–85). California courts have said the same: “[P]ublic
19 policy may be found in ... judicial decisions as well as in constitutions and
20 statutes.” *Discover Bank v. Superior Court*, 36 Cal. 4th 148, 160 (2005). Nothing in
21 *EpicentRx II*—a corporate contract dispute involving no consumers and no class
22 action—purports to disturb this settled rule.
23
24
25

1 **4. Because it only affects one of two independent rationales,**
2 ***EpicentRx II* does not alter the outcome of this Court’s FNC**
3 **Order.**

4 Where an order rests on “two separate and independent” grounds, eliminating
5 one does not compel a different result. *See Massachusetts v. United States*, 333 U.S.
6 611, 623 (1948) (“Where a decision rests on two or more grounds, none can be
7 relegated to the category of obiter dictum, and each is the judgment of the court and
8 of equal validity with the other.”); *California ex rel. Van De Kamp v. Tahoe Reg’l*
9 *Planning Agency*, 766 F.2d 1319, 1323 (9th Cir. 1985) (“Because either ground
10 independently supports the judgment, we may affirm on the basis of either.”);
11 *United States v. Woodbury*, 263 F.2d 784, 788 (9th Cir. 1959) (where an order rests
12 on two independent grounds, “even if one of the two grounds were erroneous, the
judgment must be affirmed on the other ground.”)

13 Here, the Court’s FNC Order rested on two distinct public-policy
14 determinations, either of which was sufficient to deny Fenix’s FNC Motion. Not
15 only that, but the Court explicitly described the two public policy grounds as
16 “independent and alternative” bases for its ruling. Dkt. 117 at 13. The first
17 concerned California’s public policy regarding predispute jury trial waivers; the
18 second concerned California’s public policy favoring consumer class actions.
19 Because *EpicentRx II*—a corporate contract dispute involving no consumers and no
20 class action—addressed only the jury-trial rationale, the class-action rationale
21 remains untouched and independently sustains the FNC Order.

22 Fenix all but ignores the Court’s own language—eliding the distinction
23 between the two distinct public-policy determinations to suggest (misleadingly) that
24 both grounds must be based on a “CLRA-like anti-waiver provision voiding

1 contracts that would diminish Plaintiffs’ ability to bring a California-style class
2 action.” Mot. at 10.

3 Nor does Fenix challenge this Court’s factual findings further supporting the
4 conclusion that requiring California Plaintiffs to litigate in England or Wales would
5 deprive them of substantive rights by preventing them from bringing their claims as
6 a class action. *See* Dkt. 117 at 11 (“The court finds that the limitations on class
7 actions identified by Plaintiffs would ‘substantially diminish’ the rights of
8 California residents to bring consumer class actions.”) (quoting *EpicentRx*, 95 Cal.
9 App. 5th at 899).

10 Because the class-action rationale is untouched by *EpicentRx II* and amply
11 supported by precedent and factual findings, it continues to warrant the denial of
12 Fenix’s Motion.

13 **5. *EpicentRx II* reaffirms this Court’s discretion in weighing various**
14 **public policies.**

15 In the *forum non conveniens* context, trial courts retain discretion to weigh
16 public-policy factors and are not compelled to change course based on a partial shift
17 in law. *See Sun v. Advanced China Healthcare, Inc.*, 901 F.3d 1081, 1088 (9th Cir.
18 2018) (public policy weighing is case-specific and entrusted to trial court
19 discretion.) The Ninth Circuit has emphasized that public-policy determinations in
20 this context are “case-specific” and “entrusted to the trial court’s discretion.” *Id.* It
21 has likewise recognized that the “weight to be given to a state’s public policy” in
22 enforcing or declining to enforce an FSC “is for the trial court to determine.” *Depuy*
23 *Synthes Sales, Inc. v. Howmedica Osteonics Corp.*, 28 F.4th 956, 964 (9th Cir.
24 2022).

1 Fenix's Motion never engages with the fact that whether to enforce an FSC
2 contrary to public policy is committed to the trial court's discretion, but that
3 principle alone is fatal to Fenix's request: this Court has already exercised its
4 discretion on a fully developed record, and nothing in *EpicentRx II* undermines that
5 judgment.

6 **B. Fenix fails to meet its burden for reconsideration because *EpicentRx II* is
not a material, outcome-determinative change in law.**

7 **1. Fenix fails to show a material change in the law that would
8 support reconsideration.**

9 Civil Local Rule 7-18 permits reconsideration only where there is "a material
10 difference in fact or law" from that presented before the decision, or "a change of
11 law" occurring afterward. *Stewart v. Wachowski*, 574 F. Supp. 2d 1074, 1117;
12 *Motorola, Inc. v. J.B. Rodgers Mech. Contrs., Inc.*, 215 F.R.D. 581, 583; *Planned*
13 *Parenthood of the Great Nw. & the Hawaiian Islands v. Wasden*, 564 F. Supp. 3d
14 895, 901 ("did not change the applicable ... standard," and therefore "did not alter
15 [the] Court's prior ruling").

16 As shown in Section III.A, *EpicentRx II* was a corporate contract dispute
17 involving no consumers and no class action. It addressed only the jury-trial
18 rationale, leaving untouched the class-action rationale that this Court identified as
19 an independent basis for denying enforcement. Fenix identifies no change in law
20 beyond *EpicentRx II*, and no new facts.⁴ This Court's class-action rationale is
21 grounded both in binding California and Ninth Circuit authority (*Vasquez, America*

22 ⁴ Any legal theories or authorities it now invokes, apart from *EpicentRx II*, could
23 have been raised in its original FNC Motion or reply. See Civil Local Rule 7-
24 18(a)'s requirement that the moving party must also show that the material
25 difference or change "could not with reasonable diligence have been known" before
the decision.

1 *Online, Doe I, Gemini*) and in the Court’s factual findings about the “significant
2 limitations” California consumers would face trying to bring class action suits in
3 English or Welsh courts (Dkt. 117 at 12–13). Because those findings and the
4 governing law remain unchanged, reconsideration is unwarranted.

5 **2. Reconsideration is discretionary**

6 Even when a change in law is alleged, whether to grant reconsideration is
7 within the trial court’s sound discretion. *Sun v. Advanced China Healthcare, Inc.*,
8 901 F.3d 1081, 1088 (9th Cir. 2018) (public-policy determinations in FSC
9 enforcement are “case-specific” and “entrusted to the trial court’s discretion”).

10 The Court’s class-action rationale is rooted in case-specific factual findings
11 and the Court’s evaluation of the burdens imposed on California consumers by
12 litigating in England/Wales. Those determinations, and the public-policy balancing
13 they inform, are matters the Ninth Circuit has recognized fall squarely within the
14 trial court’s discretion.

15 **C. Fenix has not met the stringent standard to certify interlocutory appeal
under 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b).**

16 Section 1292(b) authorizes interlocutory appeal only when the order
17 “involves a controlling question of law as to which there is substantial ground for
18 difference of opinion and...an immediate appeal...may materially advance the
19 ultimate termination of the litigation.” These requirements are jurisdictional and
20 must be strictly construed. *See United States v. Woodbury*, 263 F.2d 784, 787–88
21 (§ 1292(b) intended for “exceptional cases” where resolution of the legal question
22 will control the outcome). Fenix fails to establish any of those elements.

1 **3. Immediate appeal would not materially advance the termination**
2 **of this litigation.**

3 Section 1292(b) allows an immediate appeal only where it would “materially
4 advance the ultimate termination of the litigation.” 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b)—not where
5 an interlocutory appeal could at most narrow the case but would not resolve it. *See*
6 *e.g., Stiner v. Brookdale Senior Living, Inc.*, 383 F. Supp. 3d 949, 958 (N.D. Cal.
7 2019) (refusing to certify an interlocutory appeal where “even if [certain claims]
8 were terminated at this juncture, Plaintiffs’ other claims are still pending and
9 litigation would go forward regardless.”).

10 Here, even if the Ninth Circuit adopted Fenix’s position on the jury-trial
11 rationale, the class-action rationale would sustain the denial of the FNC Motion,
12 and the case would proceed in this Court. Moreover, as argued in more detail in
13 Plaintiffs’ Oppositions to Defendants’ Motions to Dismiss, the Agency Defendants
14 are not parties to the FSC, and claims against them would remain here regardless.⁵

15 Because the litigation would continue in any event, an interlocutory appeal
16 would not eliminate the need for further proceedings or conserve judicial resources.
17 Section 1292(b) is not satisfied where an immediate appeal could at most narrow
18 one issue while leaving the remainder of the case untouched. *See In re Pacific Gas*
19 *& Elec. Co.*, 280 B.R. 506, 522 (N.D. Cal. 2002) (exceptional circumstances
20 required for § 1292(b) certification).

21 Moreover, forum non conveniens rulings that turn on the balancing of public-
22 and private-interest factors are inherently fact-bound and discretionary, not “pure”
23 legal questions appropriate for interlocutory review. *See City of San Diego v.*

24 ⁵ *See supra*, n. 1.

1 *Monsanto Co.*, 310 F. Supp. 3d 1057, 1065 (S.D. Cal. 2018) (mixed fact-law
2 determinations are not suitable for § 1292(b) review).

3 **IV. CONCLUSION**

4 Fenix has not shown that *EpicentRx II* undermines this Court's independent
5 rationale based on California's public policy favoring consumer class actions. That
6 rationale remains binding under California Supreme Court, California appellate,
7 and Ninth Circuit precedent, and it is amply supported by this Court's factual
8 findings. Nor has Fenix met the exacting requirements for certification under 28
9 U.S.C. § 1292(b). Because neither reconsideration nor interlocutory review is
10 warranted, the Motion should be denied in its entirety.

11
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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

The undersigned, counsel of record for Plaintiffs, certifies that this brief
contains 4,188 words which complies with the word limit of C.D. Cal. L.R. 11-6.1.

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